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FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8999  
INFO RUEHXR/RWANDA COLLECTIVE  
RUCNSAD/SOUTHERN AF DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY COLLECTIVE  
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC  
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RUZEJAA/JAC MOLESWORTH RAF MOLESWORTH UK

UNCLAS KINSHASA 000006

SENSITIVE  
SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [MOPS](#) [PHUM](#) [PREF](#) [KPKO](#) [CG](#)  
SUBJECT: EASTERN DRC NOTES - January 5

¶1. (U) The items contained in this report consist principally of spot information from various sources. This report is not exhaustive, nor can all the information contained therein be confirmed at this time.

#### Security Situation

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¶2. (SBU) The CNDP and an unspecified Mai Mai group engaged in a firefight south of Mashango on January 1. On January 2, UN security officials reported ongoing clashes between CNDP and PARECO forces in the Mweso area.

¶3. (SBU) MONUC plans to deploy two companies of Bangladeshi troops to Ishasha on the Ugandan border. Since the CNDP withdrew, Mai Mai (and possibly FDLR) forces have moved back into the area. (Note: CNDP charges that hostile forces have moved into areas that the group has vacated have more validity on the northern edge of territory it controls. End Note.)

¶4. (SBU) Armed men engaged in looting at the Kihondo IDP camp south of Sake.

¶5. (SBU) According to MONUC, the CNDP continues to replace uncooperative administrators in areas under its control. CNDP recently replaced the village chief in the village of Mbiru Mbiru south of Sake because he refused to work under the rebel group.

¶6. (SBU) Goma remained very calm during the holidays.

#### LRA - Operation Lightning Thunder

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¶7. (SBU) According to MONUC, there were no new LRA attacks over the New Year. FARDC troops reportedly engaged LRA elements in Nagiro, east of Dungu. MONUC has deployed additional troops to Faradje.

¶8. (SBU) UNICEF reported that, since September, the LRA has abducted approximately 200 children in the Dungu District. As of December 31, UNICEF continues to assist 31 children who escaped from the LRA.

#### Humanitarian Situation

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¶9. (SBU) The World Food Program (WFP) announced on December 31 that its current food aid distribution aims to benefit 540,000 people throughout North Kivu Province. Over the next six months, WFP anticipates a shortfall of 22,000 metric tons in food stocks. Total requirement for the period should be 104,000 metric tons.

¶10. (SBU) According to UNHCR, preliminary assessments indicate that

current food aid, medical services, and nutritional programs may prove insufficient to meet the needs of the growing number of IDPs in Orientale Province. UNHCR has sent a team to the area to more fully assess the situation.

¶11. (SBU) A UNHCR convoy transporting non-food items has reached Dungu after an 11-day trip from Bunia. WFP will continue to use the land route to deliver supplies to the area, particularly before the commencement of the rainy season in February. The potential deterioration of the Dungu airstrip and inability of cargo planes to land on the strip has prompted WFP to consider air drops as an alternative delivery method.

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